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pluck up the roots of war in the beliefs, the instincts and habits of the people.

Japan and International Coaling Stations.

The persistence with which certain of our eminently "patriotic" citizens seek to demonstrate that Japan is studiously, craftily and incessantly making ready for an early war upon the United States is most disheartening. The extent of this perverse activity sometimes makes one wonder, in spite of the most undying optimism, whether the country is not, after all, already well along on the road of both intellectual and moral degeneracy. Of course it is n't, for the masses of the people are neither jingoes nor imbeciles.

The latest attempt of these mongers of war with our very best friend among the nations has shown a depth of perversity beyond, if possible, anything which they have previously manifested. In their attempt to find a dramatic explanation of the big army manœuvres in Southern Texas they fell immediately upon Japan, for whom they are continually lying in wait, and set to pounding her, as the man who fell among thieves on the road to Jericho got pounded. President Taft, they averred, had discovered that the Japanese government was negotiating a secret treaty with Mexico with the view of using the latter country as a basis of operations against us when the fateful hour should come. Then they invented the theory of a Japanese intrigue to secure a coaling station on Magdalena Bay, with the same sinister motives.

President Taft has been driven by these brainless and heartless representations to put a quietus on the gratuitous charges of base machination against us by the Mikado's government, by giving a frank denial of all these charges and an explanation of the mobilization of the army near the Mexican border. But will his frank statement silence these maligners of Japan? Probably not for long. The first favorable moment they will be at it again. But our Japanese friends across the Pacific, who have been so deeply wounded by what has been said here in disparagement of them, have by this time, we think, learned the real animus of these utterances, and are not likely to be fooled by them any more. Nothing could be more fitting than the manner in which President Taft, representing the whole nation, has, on occasion of these repeated vaporings, hastened to assure Tokyo that the people of our country, small sections excepted, believe none of these misrepresentations, but sincerely trust the Mikado and his people.

The mention of coaling stations leads one to wonder what possible harm could come to us if Japan had such a station on Magdalena Bay. Our government seeks to have coaling stations wherever they can be had; why

should not Japan do the same? Why should we not do unto others as we would have them do unto us? Why should coaling stations continue to be classed among instruments and menaces of war? Have they not, in view of the world-wide development of commerce and travel, a beneficent service to render in the further unification of the nations and peoples of the earth? It seems to us so. We think, therefore, and venture to suggest, that the time has come for the establishment of great neutralized *international coaling stations* at all the important crossroads of commerce and travel throughout the world. It ought to be easy for the maritime powers to agree upon a convention for the establishment of such international stations, in a way to put an end forever to the talk of coaling stations as instruments and menaces of war, and to make them links of friendship, trust, co-operation and peace. Here is a chance for President Taft to do another service to the cause of international concord similar to that done by him a year and more ago, when he declared in favor of the arbitration of all international controversies without exception.

Editorial Notes.

New England Department.

On account of the removal of the National Headquarters of the American Peace Society to Washington, D. C., a Department for New England has been created, which will for the present maintain an office at 31 Beacon Street, Boston, in charge of Dr. James L. Tryon, representative. A Massachusetts Branch of the American Peace Society has also been organized, the details of which will be given in the next issue of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*. This Branch Society will also have its office at 31 Beacon Street, Boston, in connection with the New England Department.

First Universal Races Congress.

The first Universal Races Congress, which is to be held at the University of London July 26 to 29 this summer, under the presidency of the Right Honorable Lord Weardale, promises to be one of the most striking and imposing demonstrations of an international character ever held. "The object of the Congress will be to discuss, in the light of modern knowledge and the modern conscience, the general relations subsisting between the peoples of the West and those of the East, between so-called white and so-called colored peoples, with a view to encouraging between them a fuller understanding, the most friendly feelings and a heartier coöperation." On the program are many distinguished men from different countries — Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Italy, India, China, Japan, etc. Nearly all phases of the race problem will be discussed, in most cases by those who may be